

REMARKS

Amendments

Amendments to the Claims

Applicant has amended the claims to more particularly point out what Applicant regards as the invention. Specifically, the invention as claimed provides image edge enhancements using a brightness map of the captured raw image. The brightness map comprises luminance values extracted from the captured raw image. No new matter has been added as a result of these amendments.

Rejections

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-16, 18, and 19

Claims 1-16, 18, and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being anticipated by Acharya, U.S. Patent No. 6,108,453. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-16, 18, and 19 are not anticipated by Acharya.

Acharya discloses enhancing a raw image by combining an enhanced map of the image with an approximated version of the image. The enhanced map is generated by applying noise reduction to the difference between the raw and approximated images. The resulting enhanced image that is the pixel-by-pixel sum of intensity values of the enhanced map and approximated image.

In independent claims 1, 6, 11, and 16, as amended, Applicant claims providing edge enhancements using a brightness map comprised of luminance values extracted from the captured raw image. In contrast, Acharya discloses using an enhanced map that is based on difference between the raw and approximate image, and does not teach or suggest using a brightness map, particularly any one comprising luminance values extracted from the raw image as claimed. Therefore, Acharya cannot be properly interpreted as anticipating claims 1-16, 18, and 19. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully

submits that claims 1-16, 18, and 19 is not anticipated by Acharya under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) and respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of the claims.

Claims 17 and 20

Claims 17 and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Acharya and Lathrop et. al. US Patent No. 6,288,743 (previously cited). Applicant respectfully submits that the combination of Acharya and Lathrop does not teach or suggest each and every limitation of Applicant's invention as claimed in claims 17 and 20.

Claims 17 and 20 depend from independent claim 16. In independent claim 16, Applicant claims providing edge enhancements using a brightness map comprised of luminance values extracted from the captured raw image. As per above, Acharya does not teach or suggest this claim limitation. Furthermore, Lathrop is directed towards enhancing full color images and does not teach or suggest enhancing raw images. Therefore, Lathrop cannot be properly interpreted as teaching or suggesting using a brightness map for edge enhancements of raw images as claimed. Therefore, the combination cannot render obvious Applicant's invention as claimed in claim 16 and claims 17 and 20 that depend on them. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over the combination.

SUMMARY

Claims 1-20 are currently pending. In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the application and allowance of the pending claims.

If the Examiner determines the prompt allowance of these claims could be facilitated by a telephone conference, the Examiner is invited to contact Eric Replogle at (408) 720-8300.

Deposit Account Authorization

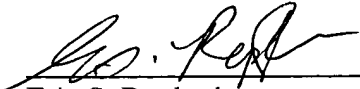
Authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any

charges that may be due. Furthermore, if an extension is required, then Applicant hereby requests such extension.

Respectfully submitted,

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